

REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the *Final Office Action* dated August 16, 2007 wherein the Patent Office maintained the rejection of all pending claims 1, 3-24, 26-31 and 47-61 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). In response, Applicants respectfully request entry of the claim amendments submitted herein and reconsideration of the presently claimed application in view of the following remarks.

Status of Claims

Claims 1 and 20 are currently amended.

Claims 3-18, 21-24, 30 and 31 are in original form.

Claims 19, 26-29 and 47-61 were previously presented.

Claims 2, 25 and 32-46 were previously canceled.

Thus, claims 1, 3-24, 26-31 and 47-61 are currently pending in the application.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 103(a) in view of Lemons and Menard

In the *Final Office Action*, the Patent Office maintained the rejection of claims 1, 3-19, 47-49 and 53-61 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,504,479 to Lemons et al. (hereinafter *Lemons*) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,667,688 to Menard et al. (hereinafter *Menard*).

Lemons teaches an integrated security system 10 with first and second communication channels 36, 50 that are both connected between a facility 12 and a monitoring center 38. The first communication channel 36 is “primary”, and the second communication channel 50 is “backup” that is used only when the primary channel 36 “fails, is not available, or is interrupted.” As acknowledged by the Patent Office, *Lemons* fails to disclose a security system with a first network and a second network through which a security gateway transmits notification of an

alarm condition to a security system server substantially simultaneously.

Menard generally discloses an alarm system 10 that is operable to substantially simultaneously transmit alarm notifications along Path A to an end-user 30 and along Path B to a central station 20, as schematically depicted in Figure 1. The end-user 30 can then communicate directly with the central station 20 along Path C using a personal communication device 40 to either verify or cancel the alarm before an emergency agency is dispatched. Thus, *Menard* discloses a system having two communication Paths A, B along which an alarm condition may be simultaneously transmitted to two different destinations.

Claims 1, 3-19 and 47-49

In maintaining the obviousness rejection of independent claim 1 and dependent claims 3-19 and 47-49, the Patent Office takes the position that one of ordinary skill in the art would modify the simultaneous transmission paths (A and B of Fig. 1) of *Menard* into the transmission channels of *Lemons* to notify the monitoring center without delay when one of the transmissions is lost.

In response, Applicants have amended claim 1 to recite that the security system server actually receives two notifications of the alarm condition from the security gateway. Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of *Lemons* and *Menard* fails to render such a security system obvious at least because *Lemons* teaches that its monitoring center 38 receives only a single alarm notification through one of the two redundant communication channels 36, 50, and similarly, *Menard* teaches that its central station 20 receives only a single alarm notification through Path B. Neither of these references teaches or suggests receiving two notifications of a single alarm condition at the monitoring center 38 of *Lemons* or the central station 20 of *Menard*.

Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that combining *Lemons* and *Menard* would not predictably yield a security system server that receives two notifications of an alarm condition. Instead, the predictable result of combining these two references would be a security system that employs the elements of both systems. Specifically, a security system with a primary communication channel 36 (or Path B) and a backup communication channel 50 to deliver a single alarm notification to the monitoring center 38 (or central station 20), and with another communication channel (Path A) to deliver a single alarm notification to an end-user 30.

Accordingly, at least because neither *Lemons* nor *Menard* teaches or suggests a security system server that receives two separate notifications of an alarm condition from a security gateway according to amended claim 1, and such a security system is not the predictable result of combining these references, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over *Lemons* in view of *Menard*. Additionally, Applicants note that pending claims 3-19 and 47-49 each depend from and incorporate the limitations of claim 1. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3-19 and 47-49 are likewise allowable over *Lemons* in view of *Menard*.

Claims 53-56

In maintaining the rejection of claims 53-56, the Patent Office refers to the following passage of *Lemons* (column 4, line 66 through column 5, line 16):

In addition to the common communications channel 36, a backup or redundant communications channel 50 may be employed. The channel 50 is connected between the facility 12 and the monitoring center 38 by using communications termination equipment (CTE2) 52 located within the facility 12 and communications termination equipment (CTE2) 54 located within the monitoring center 42. The CTE2 52 may be connected to the SCU 14 via a connection 56. Although not shown, the CTE2 54 may be connected to the video server 42, the customer database 44, and the central alarm computer 46 as the CTE 40. Thus all functions of the integrated security system 10 can be

maintained even when the primary communications link 36 fails, is not available, or is interrupted. Examples of the communications termination equipment 34, 40, 52, and 54 may be an ISDN router or a phone line dial-up.

An important feature of the present invention is the use of the single or common communications channel 36 to control and communicate with all features and functions of the SCU 14 and the components 16-22.

Based upon this passage, the Patent Office takes the position that *Lemons* discloses the following limitations of independent claim 53:

“wherein the security gateway is configured to ... (2) detect if connectivity with the security system server through the first network is lost; and (3) notify the security system server through the second network of the loss of connectivity through the first network.”

After a careful review of the *Lemons* passage presented above, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 53, and claim 54 that depends therefrom, on the basis that *Lemons* fails to disclose a security gateway that is configured to detect if connectivity with the security system server through the first network is lost, and *Lemons* fails to disclose a security gateway that is configured to notify the security system server through the second network of the loss of connectivity through the first network. Instead, as clearly shown in the cited passage above, *Lemons* merely discloses that the backup communications channel 50 can be used when the primary communications link 36 either fails, is not available, or is interrupted. *Lemons* makes no mention whatsoever that the facility 12 has the capability of detecting a loss of connectivity with the monitoring center 38 through the primary channel 36, or that the facility 12 is configured to send any notification through the backup channel 50 to indicate to the monitoring center 38 that there is a loss of connectivity through the primary channel 36. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 53, and claim 54 that depends therefrom, are patentably

distinguishable over *Lemons*.

Similarly, based upon the same passage of *Lemons* presented above, the Patent Office takes the position that the *Lemons* reference discloses the following limitations of independent claim 55:

“wherein the security gateway is further configured to notify the security system server in the event that connectivity with the security system server through the first network is lost while the security gateway is disarmed and the security gateway is armed before connectivity with the security system server through the first network is restored.”

Again, after a careful review of the *Lemons* passage cited above, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claim 55, and claim 56 that depends therefrom, on the basis that *Lemons* fails to disclose a security gateway configured to notify the security system server in the event that connectivity with the security system server through the first network is lost while the security gateway is disarmed and the security gateway is armed before connectivity with the security system server through the first network is restored according to independent claim 55. Indeed, *Lemons* fails to make any suggestion whatsoever that the facility 12 is ever disarmed or armed, or that the facility 12 is configured to send a notification to the monitoring center 38 in the event that connectivity through the primary channel 36 is lost. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 55, and claim 56 that depends therefrom, are patentably distinguishable over *Lemons*.

Claims 57-61

The Patent Office maintained the rejection of claims 57-61 as obvious in view of the *Lemons* security system modified by the *Menard* teachings regarding communications along various paths (Path A, B, C, D) as depicted in Figure 1, which is shown below for reference.

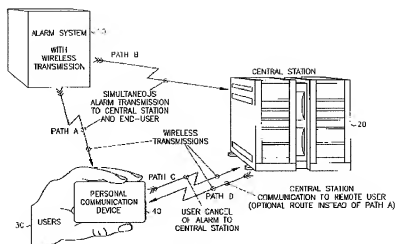


FIG. 1

The Patent Office relates the *Menard* alarm system 10 with the claimed security gateway, the end-user 30 with the claimed monitoring center, and the central station 20 with the claimed security system server.

Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection of claims 57-61 and submit that the combination of *Lemons* with *Menard* fails to disclose a monitoring center (end-user 30 of *Menard*) that is configured to notify the security system server (central station 20 of *Menard*) of the alarm condition according to independent claim 57. As clearly depicted, *Menard* end-user 30 never notifies the central station 20 of an alarm condition. Instead, the alarm system 10 notifies the central station 20 of the alarm condition along Path B, and the end-user 30 only communicates an alarm verification or cancellation to the central station 20 along Path C, not an alarm notification. The central station 20 only receives one alarm notification, and that is from the alarm station 10 along Path B.

At least for these reasons, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 57 is patentably distinguishable over *Lemons* in view of *Menard*. Additionally, Applicants note that pending claims 58-61 each depend from and incorporate the limitations of claim 57. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 58-61 are likewise allowable over *Lemons* in view of *Menard*.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 103(a) in view of Lemons, Menard and Kung

The Patent Office maintained the rejection of claims 20-24, 26-31 and 50-52 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Lemons* in view of *Menard* and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,826,173 to Kung et al. (hereinafter *Kung*). The Patent Office takes the position that one of ordinary skill in the art would modify the simultaneous transmission paths (A and B of Fig. 1) of *Menard* into the transmission channels of *Lemons* to notify the monitoring center without delay when one of the transmissions is lost, and it would have been obvious to use the cable-headend and hybrid-fiber-coaxial network of *Kung* with the security system formed by combining *Lemons* and *Menard* to provide faster notifications.

In response, Applicants have amended claim 20 to recite that the security system server is configured to receive a notification of an alarm condition through the second network and to receive another notification of the alarm condition through the third network. Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of *Lemons* and *Menard* fails to render such a security system obvious at least because *Lemons* teaches that its monitoring facility 38 receives only a single alarm notification through one of the two redundant communication channels 36, 50, and similarly, *Menard* teaches that its central station 20 receives only a single alarm notification through Path B. Neither of these references teaches or suggests receiving a notification of an alarm condition and another notification of the same alarm condition at the monitoring center 38

of *Lemons* or the central station 20 of *Menard* through two distinct networks.

Moreover, Applicants respectfully submit that combining *Lemons* and *Menard* would not predictably yield a security system server that receives two notifications of the same alarm condition. Instead, the predictable result of combining these two references would be a security system that employs the elements of both systems. Specifically, a security system with a primary communication channel 36 (or Path B) and a backup communication channel 50 to deliver a single alarm notification to the monitoring center 38 (or central station 20), and with another communication channel (Path A) to deliver a single alarm notification to an end-user 30.

Accordingly, at least because neither *Lemons* nor *Menard* teaches or suggests a security system server that receives an alarm notification and another alarm notification from a security gateway through second and third networks, respectively, according to amended claim 20, and such a security system is not the predictable result of combining these references, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 20 is patentably distinguishable over *Lemons* in view of *Menard*. The Patent Office combines *Kung* into the obviousness rejection to address the cable head-end and hybrid-fiber coaxial network features of claim 20, which features have nothing to do with a security system server that receives two separate notifications of an alarm condition from a security gateway through two separate networks. Therefore, combining *Kung* with *Lemons* and *Menard* fails to resolve the deficiencies noted above, and therefore fails to render independent claim 20 obvious.

Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 20 is patentably distinguishable over *Lemons* in view of *Menard* and further in view of *Kung*. Additionally, Applicants note that pending claims 21-24, 26-31 and 50-52 each depend from and incorporate

the limitations of claim 20. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 21-24, 26-31 and 50-52 are likewise allowable over *Lemons* in view of *Menard* and further in view of *Kung*.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC § 103(a) in view of Lemons and Saylor

The Patent Office maintained the rejection of claims 1 and 3-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Lemons* in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,400,265 to Saylor et al. (hereinafter *Saylor*). The Patent Office takes the position that *Saylor* fairly suggests simultaneous transmission of an alert notification from the central security server 130 to the user 160 through a first network (such as the Internet 150) and to the other contacts 162₁ – 162_N identified by the user through second or third networks (such as POTS 152).

In response, Applicants have amended claim 1 to clarify that the security system server actually receives two notifications of the alarm condition from the security gateway. Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of *Lemons* and *Saylor* fails to render such a security system obvious at least because *Lemons* teaches that its monitoring center 38 receives only a single alarm notification through one of the two redundant communication channels 36, 50, and similarly, *Saylor* teaches that its central security server 130 receives only a single notification of an alarm condition from any of the control panels 120, 122, 124. Neither of these references teaches or suggests receiving two separate notifications of the same alarm condition at the monitoring center 38 of *Lemons* or the central security server 130 of *Saylor*.

Moreover, even assuming for the sake of argument that *Saylor* does teach simultaneous alarm notifications from the security system server 130 to individual persons 160, 162₁ – 162_N, without conceding such, these alarm notifications are not occurring between a security gateway and a security system server according to claim 1. Instead, these alarm notifications are being

transmitted from the central security server 130 *after* it receives alarm information from the control panels 120, 122, 124. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that combining *Lemons* and *Saylor* would not predictably yield a security system according to claim 1 since the teachings relied upon by the Patent Office occur at different locations and times in the respective security systems of each reference. Instead, the predictable result of combining these two references would be a security system wherein the monitoring center 38 (or central security server 130) receives a single notification of an alarm condition and thereafter transmits the alert notification to individual persons 160, 162₁ – 162_N.

Accordingly, at least because neither *Lemons* nor *Saylor* teaches or suggests a security system server that receives two separate notifications of a single alarm condition from a security gateway according to amended claim 1, and such a security system is not the predictable result of combining these references, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is patentably distinguishable over *Lemons* in view of *Saylor*. Additionally, Applicants note that rejected claims 3-19 each depend from and incorporate the limitations of claim 1. Thus, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3-19 are likewise allowable over *Lemons* in view of *Saylor*.


In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants believe that the patentability of the pending claims has been clearly established, and these claims are now in condition for allowance. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of all remaining rejections, and issuance of a *Notice of Allowance*.

CONCLUSION

Consideration of the foregoing remarks, reconsideration of the application, and withdrawal of the rejections and objections is respectfully requested by Applicants. No new matter is introduced by way of the amendment. It is believed that each ground of rejection raised in the *Final Office Action* dated August 16, 2007 has been fully addressed. If any fee is due as a result of the filing of this paper please appropriately charge such fee to Deposit Account Number 50-1515 of Conley Rose, P.C., Plano, Texas. If a petition for extension of time is necessary in order for this paper to be deemed timely filed, please consider this a petition therefore.

If a telephone conference would facilitate the resolution of any issue or expedite the prosecution of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the telephone number given below.

Respectfully submitted,
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